



## **500.64 Facial Recognition Usage**

Number Series: 500—Operational  
Approved Date:  
Review Due Date:

Sheriff's Approval: Digital  
Review Frequency: 3- Years

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### **POLICY**

Facial recognition system also known as Face Analysis Comparison Examination System (FACES) is a valuable tool for identifying individuals who have been involved in criminal activity is accessed via the FR-NET.

Deputies shall utilize facial recognition systems as a tool to support other enforcement or investigative efforts as appropriate.

### **PROCEDURE**

#### **A. Facial Recognition Equipment.**

1. Deputies must complete a four hour online course offered by the Pinellas County Sheriff's Office to gain access.
2. Understand that Facial recognition equipment installed in a vehicle is the responsibility of the deputy assigned to that vehicle.
3. Facial recognition equipment will only be used for official law enforcement investigations:
  - a. To determine the identity of a person; or
  - b. To determine the presence of an out-standing warrant for an individual.
4. Individuals shall not be physically detained for the purpose of taking a photograph for recognition. Deputies may ask for consent; this does not preclude a deputy taking the photograph of a person in a public place provided the deputy has not hindered the movement of the person.
  - a. Physical force shall not be used for the purpose of taking a photograph.
  - b. An individual in public shall not be stopped or told to pose for a photograph when it is not being done for a law enforcement investigation, i.e., a person in a motor vehicle shall not be required to roll down tinted windows or uncover their face just for the purpose of taking their photograph.
5. All photographs will be deleted from the camera and computer as soon as the facial recognition process is completed.
6. Deputies are encouraged to use the facial recognition equipment whenever practical.
7. All facial recognition investigations will be conducted with the safety of all deputies and person(s) being photographed as the paramount concern.

8. A Field Interview Report (FIR) or Offense / Incident Report must be completed for every person photographed. All members shall attach a copy of the photograph to the offense or FIR. The case agent will be responsible for completing the offense report. The member shall note in the FIR that a positive facial recognition match was or was not determined.
  9. Deputies shall immediately report any equipment issues/failures to their supervisor.
- B. Facial Recognition Entry
1. The facial recognition application resides on the FR-NET and uses a digital camera to create a photograph which is compared with photographs in a known database.
    - a. To use facial recognition application:
      1. Launch the facial recognition application through the FACES icon on the FR-NET.
      2. Take a picture of the subject(s) with the face occupying the full viewer frame.
      3. Take picture with flash on and at a distance of 4 to 6 feet without zoom.
      4. Load a photo and select search
      5. Results will return in a gallery of possible matches for review.
    - b. All photographs or a copy thereof, must be retained in case or FIR.
    - c. Deputies are held responsible for control, security and access to all facial recognition equipment and photographs in their possession.

## DEFINITIONS

None

## REFERENCES

State/Federal Regulations:

None

CFA:

None

Forms:

None

Other Policy/ Procedure References:

None